

## **U.S. Department of Justice**

United States Attorney
Eastern District of Wisconsin

517 East Wisconsin Avenue

414 / 297-1700

Milwaukee, WI 53202

TTY 414 / 297-1088

March 23, 2010

## **NEWS SUMMARY**

## Milwaukee Business Owner Charged With Trafficking in Counterfeit Trademarked Merchandise

United States Attorney James L. Santelle announced today that the grand jury returned an indictment charging Oumar Tall (age 39), of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with three counts of trafficking and one count of attempted trafficking in counterfeit, trademarked clothing, shoes, and other apparel. If convicted of these charges, Tall would face a maximum term of imprisonment of 40 years and a fine not to exceed \$8,000,000.

The indictment alleges that from December 2009 to March 2010, Tall sold or attempted to sell counterfeit Nike athletic shoes, and over 1,600 other items of various brand names. Other filings related to the case allege that on March 11, 2010, when a search warrant was executed at Tall's store, Golden Fashion, located at 6031 N. Teutonia Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, more than 400 items of suspected counterfeit Nike, Akademiks, Ed Hardy, and Louis Vuitton merchandise were seized.

According to a criminal complaint previously filed against Tall, in February 2008, Tall had been served with "cease and desist" letters from representatives of Nike, Akademiks, Chanel, and Louis Vuitton. These letters informed Tall that he was selling counterfeit items in violation of the trademark registration and that he must immediately stop doing so.

The Milwaukee Police Department and the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement are investigating this and other alleged instances of trafficking in counterfeit trademarked items. This case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Erica N. O'Neil for prosecution.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

# # # # #

For Additional information contact: Assistant United States Attorney Erica N. O'Neil 414-297-1700